INTRODUCTION TO THE EARTH

Instructor: Dr. Scott M. White
Office: Earth & Water Sciences Building, Room 314
Office Hours: Mon/Tues 1:15-2:30p or by appointment
E-mail: smw @ sc.edu [include “Geo 101” in subject line]

Lectures: T, Th 11:40-12:55
Lecture Room: BTW 201 (Booker T. Washington Auditorium)

Grading
Midterm Exams 10% each
Online homework on SmartWork (http://smartwork.wworton.com) 20%
Lab work 40%
Cumulative Final Exam 20%
Notes: Exams are scaled so that the highest raw score earned by a student for that exam is 100%.
In-class i>clickers are the only extra-credit offered in this course, see below.

Labs: This is a lab science credit course, and attendance at labs is mandatory. You must attend the lab for which you registered. Failure to complete 3 or more labs during the semester for any reason (including excused absences) will result in an automatic F grade for the entire course. Late labs or make-up labs will not be allowed except under extreme circumstances, documented as described below and allowed by your lab instructor.

Exams: There will be 2 mid-term exams and a cumulative final exam. Exams will be given in multiple-choice format.
Midterm 1: in class, check course schedule in SmartWork or BlackBoard
Midterm 2: in class, check course schedule in SmartWork or BlackBoard
Final Exam: December 12 at 12:30pm as scheduled by Registrar. No exceptions.

Required Materials
   Enrollment key: ESSGEO4E8277
   If not purchased at bookstore, also available online $20 from publisher at http://books.wworton.com/books/buysmartwork/
3. Geology 101 lab manual and workbook (purchase at USC Quick Copy located in basement of the Russell House). Bring this to every lab.
i>clicker student response system (optional, but required for extra-credit), REEF polling is not available for this course.

Important Dates
Aug. 26 (Weds) Last day to drop/add without a grade of “W” being recorded
Sept. 7 (Mon) Labor Day - no classes
Oct. 12 Last day to without a grade of “WF” being recorded
Course Syllabus, Geology 101, Tu-Th lectures, Fall 2015

Oct. 22-23  Fall break - no classes
Nov. 25-29  Thanksgiving break - no classes
Dec. 4  Last day of classes
Dec. 12 (Sat) 12:30-3:00pm Final Exam as scheduled by USC Registrar

Make-up Policy: Students must attend lecture and every lab. Students who are absent from any exam or lab will be given 0 points for that activity if they have not offered a written excuse acceptable to the instructor, and made special arrangements to make up the work. It is the student's responsibility to provide the proper documentation in a timely manner as defined for approved and medical absences below.

with prior written confirmation only for students engaged in approved university sponsored activities (excuses not accepted after the event):
  • participation in an authorized University activity (such as musical performances, academic competitions, or varsity athletic events in which the student plays a formal role in a University sanctioned event)
  • required participation in military duties or jury duty

with subsequent written confirmation only with a signed and dated note by a physician for an illness that is too severe or contagious for the student to attend class. Notice must occur within one week of the doctor’s initial diagnosis.

Extra Credit: Opportunity for extra credit will be offered during lectures and only via the i>Clicker response system. The mobile app REEF polling is not available in this course. Students using i>clickers to respond to multiple choice questions during class will receive 1 point of extra credit per lecture for answering all questions with at least 50% correct answers. Earning all extra credit points will add 6% to your overall course grade. You must bring your i>Clicker to class in order to earn extra points. Register your i>clicker via BlackBoard, not using the iclicker website.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES: This course introduces the science of the Earth, with emphasis on natural resources and hazards, geologic processes, earth structure and history through time, and global climate change. Students will develop an appreciation for the importance of natural resources to human societies. Upon completion of this course, students should:
  1. Describe the components and relationships of the Rock Cycle.
  2. Describe the components of the Hydrologic Cycle and the flow of water.
  3. Enumerate the principles of the Scientific Method.
  4. Describe the typical hazards to human life and property in different geologic settings.
  5. Identify ways that humans have an impact on the Earth, and the range of natural variability in global climate change